

REMARKS:

Claims 16-30 are in the case and presented for consideration.

Claim 1 has been combined with claim 5 to form new independent claim 17. Claims 2, 4, and 6-10 have been rewritten as new claims 18-24 to depend from new independent claim 17. Original claim 3 has been canceled and has not been rewritten.

Claims 11 and 13 have been combined to form new independent claim 25. Claims 12 and 14 have been rewritten as claims 26 and 27 to depend from new claim 25. Claim 15 was canceled and the limitations of claim 15 have been separately incorporated into new claims 28-30.

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for reasons such as lack of antecedent basis. The claims have been rewritten to overcome the Office's §112 rejection and are believed to be in proper form.

Claims 11, 12, 14, and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,314,897 to Hangny and U.S. Patent 5,896,932 to Bruns et al.

Claim 13 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome a §112 objection and include the limitations of claim 11. Therefore, claim 13 is rewritten as claim 25 to include the limitations of claim 11. Thus, claim 25 is now in allowable form.

Claims 12 and 14 have been rewritten as claims 26 and 27 to depend from allowable claim 25 and therefore are allowable as well.

Claim 15 has been canceled and its various limitations have been incorporated separately into new claims 28-30. New claims 28-30 depend from claim 25, and are therefore believed to be allowable.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent 4,374,500 to Westerfield in view of U.S. Patent 4,398,478 to Frase et al.,

or alternatively, in view of U.S. Patent 3,701,327 to Krumholz.

Claim 5 was reported to be allowable if rewritten to overcome a §112 objection and include the limitations of claim 1. Claim 5 has been rewritten as claim 17 to include the limitations of claim 1. Thus, claim 17 is now believed to be allowable. Since claims 2, 4, and 6-10 have been rewritten as new claims 18-24 to depend from new independent claim 17, claims 18-24 are believed to be allowable as well.

Claims 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent 4,374,500 to Westerfield in view of U.S. Patent 4,398,478 to Frase et al., or alternatively, in view of U.S. Patent 3,701,327 to Krumholz, and further in view of U.S. Patent 4,712,492 to Murray.

Claims 8 and 9 have been rewritten as claims 22 and 23, which depend from allowable independent claim 17. Therefore, claims 8 and 9 are believed to be allowable as well.

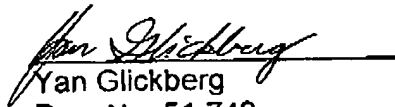
Claim 16 is amended to include the limitations that the depression "extending between one- and two-thirds of a width of said treading band of the levelling wheel" and that the treading band of the covering wheel is semipneumatic, which have each been individually deemed novel and non-obvious based on the Office's acknowledgment of allowability of claims 5 and 13 if rewritten in proper form.

Accordingly, the application and claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and favorable action is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added.

If any issues remain which may be resolved by telephonic communication, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the number below, if such will advance the application to allowance.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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